

Specification Amendments

Please amend the Title of the application as follows:

**~~AMPLIFIED LUMINESCENT HOMOGENEOUS IMMUNOASSAY~~ SIGNAL IN
BINDING ASSAYS**

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 as follows:

Finally, an active oxygen cleavable linker may also function to mask at least partially an sbp member such as biotin until cleavage occurs. Biotin and analogues thereof may be selectively masked or protected at the ureido nitrogen using a singlet oxygen cleavable group. The inventive method employs a copper catalyzed coupling reaction to couple the ureido nitrogen of biotin with a variety of unsaturated singlet oxygen sensitive compounds such as oxazoles, anthracenes, vinyls, and aryls. Deprotection or demasking of the biotin was accomplished in the presence of singlet oxygen, which cleaves off the masking group. The cleavable group may function as a protective mask to shield biotin in the presence of proteins such as avidin and streptavidin, which strongly bind to biotin. Alternatively, the cleavable group may function ~~functions~~ simultaneously as a linker to attach biotin to a molecule, support or surface and as a protective mask to shield the biotin in the presence of binding proteins. Singlet oxygen cleavage of the cleavable group simultaneously frees the biotin from the support or surface and unmasks the biotin, allowing the unmasked biotin to bind to an appropriate protein as desired. Before proceeding further with a description of the specific embodiments of the present invention, a number of terms will be defined and described in detail.